Division of Surface Water 401 Certification and Isolated Wetlands Permitting

401 Director's Authorization Applications

July 18, 2023



Ohio EPA, Division of Surface Water 50 West Town Street, Suite 700 Columbus, Ohio 43215 Telephone: (614) 644-2001 • Fax: (614) 644-2745

401 Water Quality Certification / Isolated Wetland Permit Application – Electronic Application Overview

This service provides the capability to electronically submit 401 Water Quality Certification pre-applications & applications, Isolated Wetland Permit applications, and 401 Director's Authorization applications. Each of these applications can be accessed via your personal dashboard (i.e., the opening screen which displays your 401 Application List.). Applications that are created will be listed on the Application List where additional actions may be performed on them (ex. downloading PDF application, edit, delete, and delegate).

Working within your secure eBusiness Center account, the ease of use of the new innovative smart forms, one-click submittals without having to mail paper forms to the agency, and the ability to make fee payments online make the 401 Application service the go-to destination to submit your application forms.

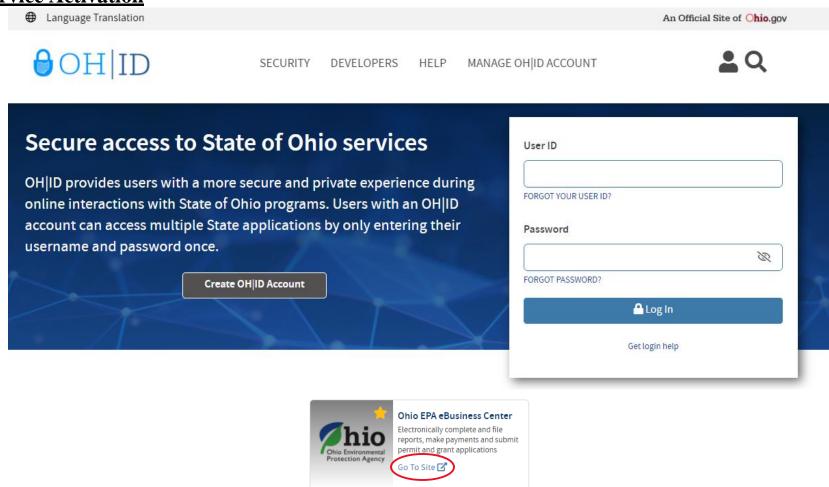
Detailed steps on how to fully complete each permit application has been graphically displayed below.

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Service Activation



To access the 401 application forms, log in to your personal OHID account and access the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center application. The site is located at: https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have an account, use these https://ohid.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/ohid/. If you do not have a supplement of the portal supplement of the portal supplement of the





Welcome to the Ohio EPA eBusiness Center



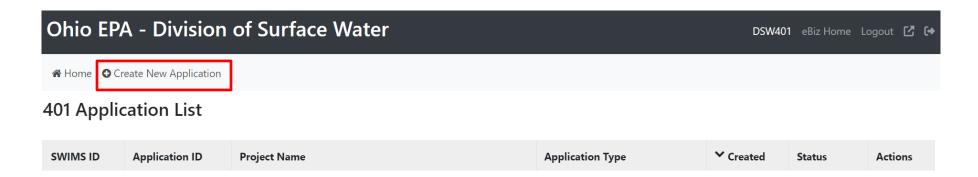
Service	Action	Facilities	Delegations
Air Services	Request	view/edit	
Conference and Events Registration	Request	view/edit	
Division of Surface Water NPDES Permit Applications (STREAMS)			
DMWM Compliance	Request	view/edit	
DMWM Compost/Scrap Tire Facility Registration	Request	view/edit	
DMWM Infectious Waste Generator Registration	Request		
DMWM License Registration			
DMWM Scrap Tire Transporter Registration	Request		
DMWM Solid Waste/Cⅅ Disposal Fees (Submit Report)	Request	view/edit	
DMWM Solid Waste/Cⅅ Facility Licensing	Request	view/edit	
DSW 401 Certification and Isolated Wetlands Permit			
DSW Credible Data	Deac tivate	view/edit	view/edit
DSW SWIMS CoPermittee Application	Request	view/edit	
e-DMR	Deac tivate	view/edit	view/edit
e-Drinking Water Reports	Deactivate	view/edit	view/edit
E2 Administration	Deac tivate	view/edit	view/edit
Generic File Upload	Request		
Hazardous Waste Report (eDRUMS)	Request	view/edit	
DEEF Grant Service	Request		
Pay Ohio EPA Fees Online	Request	view/edit	
Water/Wastewater Exam Providers: Apply for Approval and Upload Scores	Request		
Water/Wastewater Operators: Apply for Exams, Renewal and Contact Hours	Request		
Water/Wastewater Training Providers: Apply for Contact Hours and Upload Attendance	Request		

Once logged into the eBusiness Center you will see the service list. A service is a division within Ohio EPA that offers electronic services. To access the 401 application service, click on DSW 401 Certification and Isolated Wetlands Permit to select the service – you will be directed immediately.

NOTE: To submit applications you must have a PIN (i.e., electronic signature). A PIN can be obtained within minutes by clicking MY ACCOUNT and then Apply for New PIN – follow the on-screen instructions to receive your PIN. The majority of PINs are issued on the spot and can be used immediately.



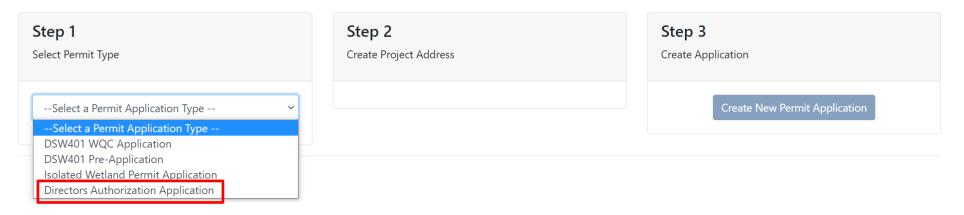
The first time you select this service you will be prompted to activate it - simply click **Yes**. You will now be directed to your personal dashboard where you can add permits to your personal list/view, complete permit applications



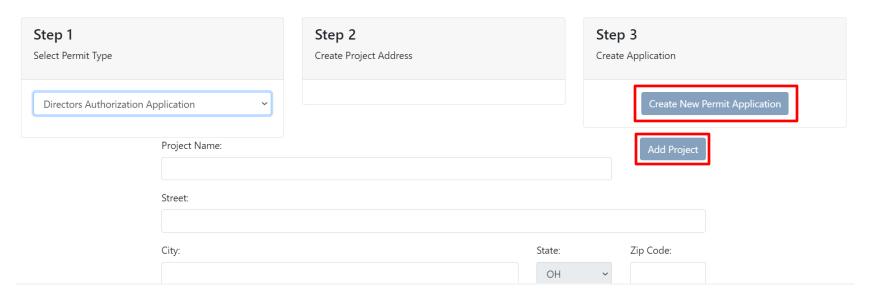
From your personal dashboard, click the *Create New Application* button.

401 Directors Authorization Application

Create New Permit Application



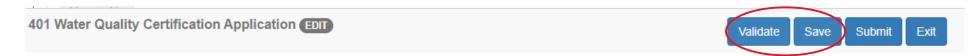
Use the dropdown on the right to select *Directors Authorization Application*.



Enter the Project Name and Project address in the provided fields and click *Add Project*. Click *Create New Permit Application* after the project information appears in Step 2.

<u>NOTE:</u> For detailed instructions on completing the 401 Director's Authorization Application please refer to the instruction document located at: https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/35/401/DA-App-Instructions.pdf

As you begin filling out the form, make sure to hit the Save button on the bottom of the screen frequently to avoid any loss of your information. Hitting the "Validate" button at the bottom of the screen will highlight those fields that are still required, and you will not be able to submit until all fields are valid.

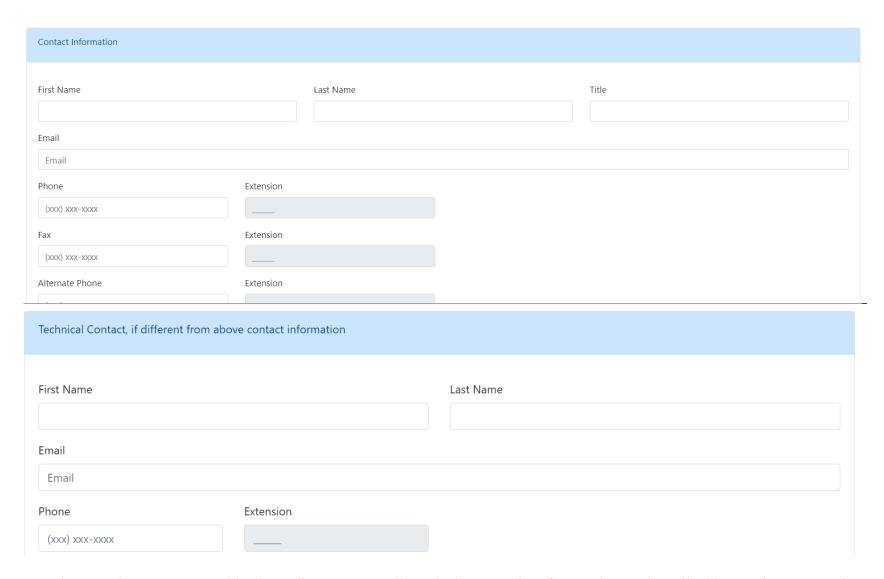


401 Directors Authorization Application SWIMS ID# 238884D

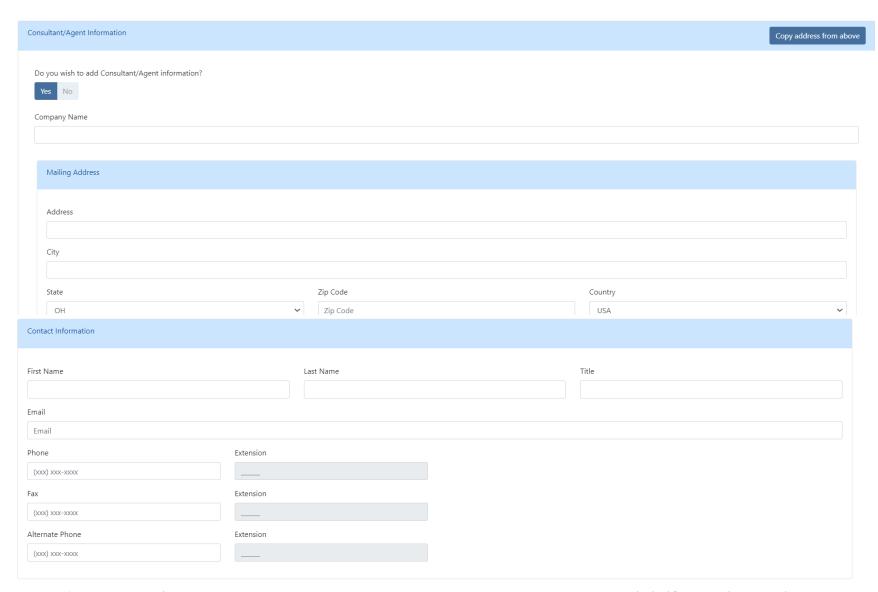
Division of Surface Water - Water Quality Certification and Isolated Wetland Permitting Unit



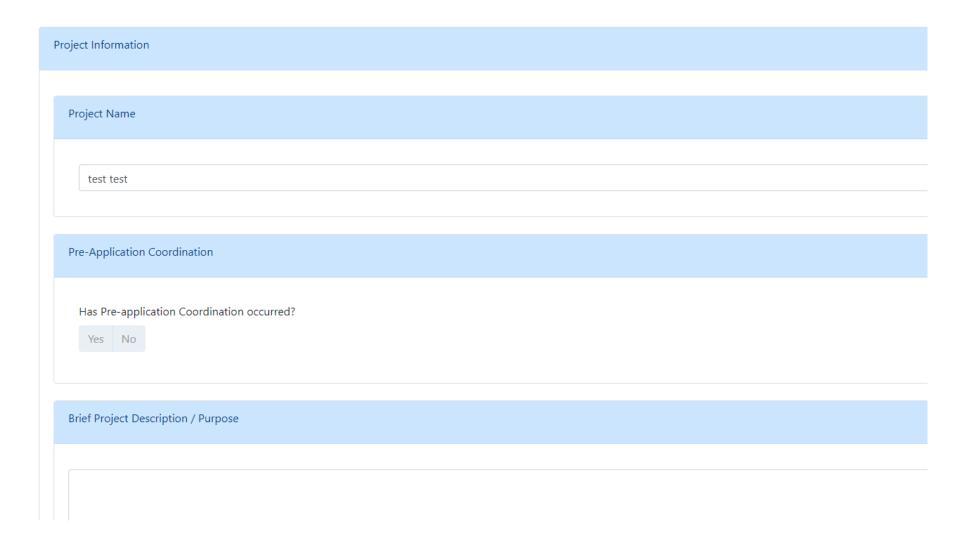
Applicant Information - Provide your company name, if applicable, and company's mailing address, including the street, city, and zip code.



Applicant Information – Provide the applicant's name, title, telephone number, fax number, and email address. If someone other than the applicant will be the point of contact for this application, provide a technical contact, including their name, email address, and phone number.



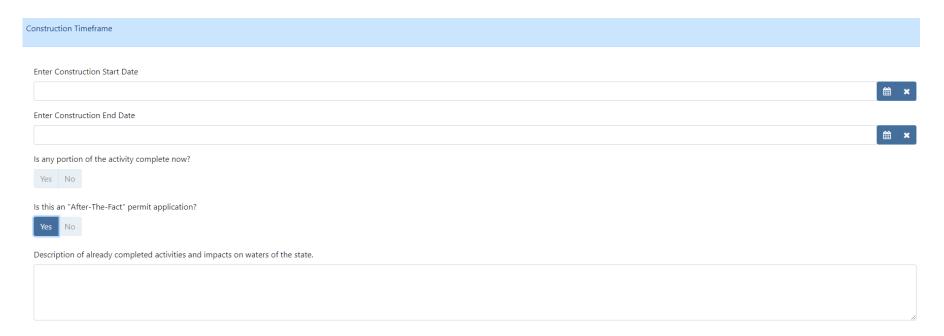
Consultant/Agent Information — select yes if you wish to designate a consultant to act on your behalf. Enter the consultant or agent's company name and mailing address along with the consultant's name, title, email address, and phone number. If someone other than the consultant will be the point of contact for this application, provide a technical contact, including their name, email address, and phone number. You are not required to have an agent. If you do not wish to enter this information, select No and this section of the form will minimize and disappear.



Project Name – Enter the name of your project. The project name will be used for tracking purposes by Ohio EPA, as well as in all correspondence referencing the project.

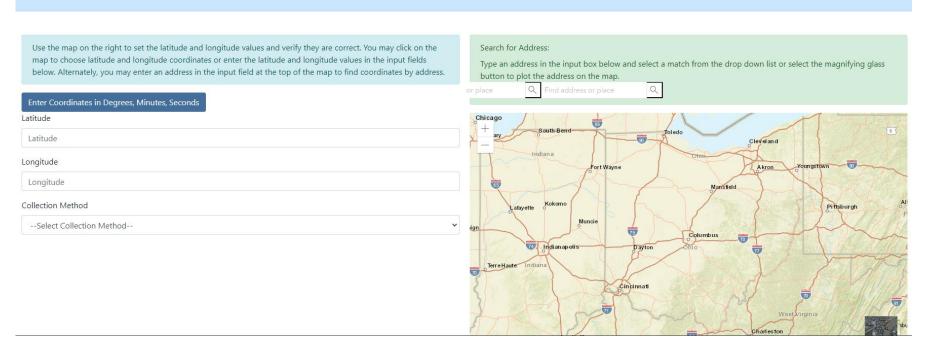
Pre-application Coordination – Select whether pre-application coordination occurred for this project and if yes, provide the name of the Ohio EPA staff member who provided the coordination and the date of the meeting or coordination.

Brief Project Description / Purpose – Provide a brief narrative description of the proposed project activities. Please keep this description short.

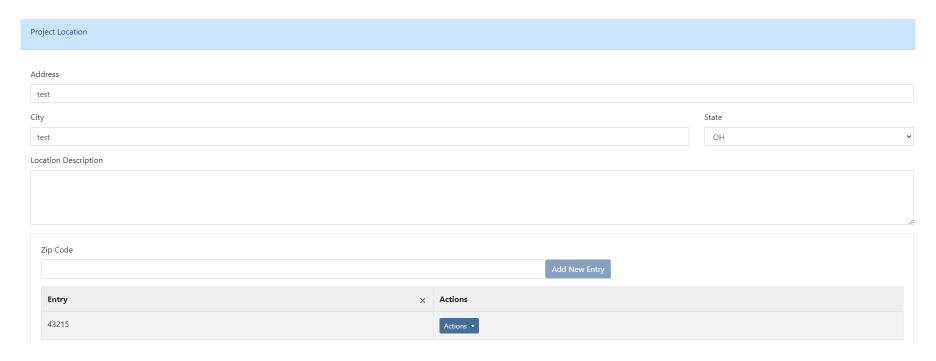


Construction Timeframe - provide the estimated start and end dates for the project by clicking on the calendar icon. Select Yes or No to indicated whether or not any portion of the project has already been started or completed. If waters have been impacted prior to receiving a permit, check yes that this is an After-The-Fact application. Provide a brief description of the activities that have been started or completed in the space provided.

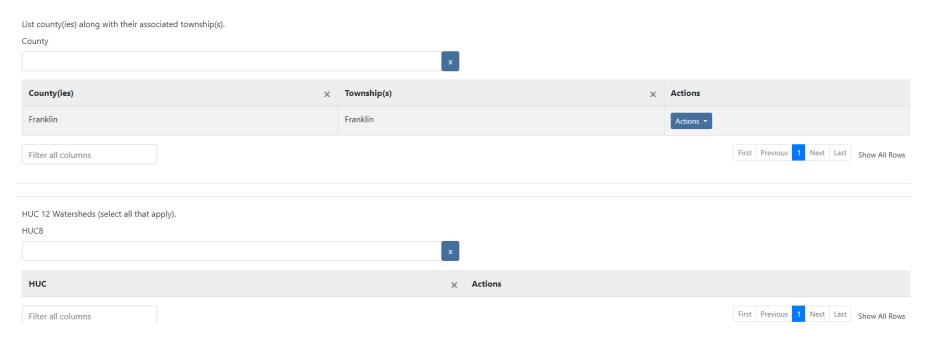
Coordinates



Coordinates – Enter the specific GPS coordinates of your proposed project. You may use the map on the right to zoom to your exact project location to determine the coordinates or search for a nearby street address. Select the appropriate collection method that was used to obtain the coordinates. If you project is linear or covers a large area, provide a point near the center of your project.

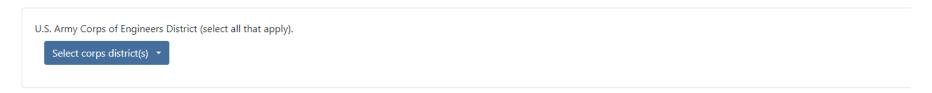


Project Location - Provide specific information relating to the location of your proposed project. The project address will auto populate from the application creation screen. Give the project address or closest point of reference including the street name or nearest intersection, nearest city, state, and zip code. If your project covers a large area, more than one zip code may be entered by clicking the **Add New Entry** button.

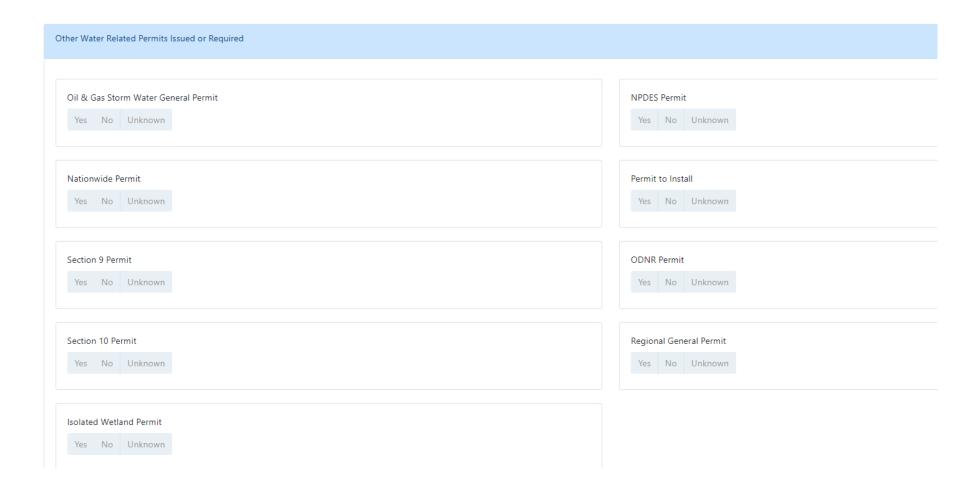


Project Location - The county will be auto populated from the application creation screen. Click in the county field to add additional counties and associated townships where the project is located. If your project covers a large area, more than one county may be entered.

List the watershed (Hydrologic Unit Code 12) where the project is located by clicking on the within the HUC 8 field. You will first be required to select the appropriate HUC 8 watershed and then the HUC 10 and finally the HUC 12 from the dropdown lists. If your project covers a large area, more than one watershed may be entered.



Select the appropriate U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) District for your project using the dropdown selection by clicking on the *Select Corps District(s)* button. If your project covers a large area, more than one Corps district may be entered.



Select *Yes* on each to fill out the corresponding information. If you select *No* or *Unknown* the detail entry for each will minimize and disappear.

Oil & Gas Storm Water General Permit – Storm water general permit for certain oil and gas pipeline activities

Nationwide Permits – Nationwide Permits (NWPs) are activity specific and are designed to relieve some of the administrative burdens associated with permit processing for both the applicant and the federal government. They provide a simplified, expeditious means of authorization under the various authorities of the Corps.

General NPDES – A general NPDES permit covers facilities that have similar operations and types of discharge. There are several types of NPDES general permits including the NPDES general permit for storm water discharges associated with construction activities.

Individual NPDES – An individual NPDES permit is unique to each facility. The limitations and other conditions in an individual permit are based on the facility's operations, type and amount of discharge, and receiving stream, among other factors.

PTI – A Permit to Install (PTI) is needed when a person wishes to construct any wastewater collection, storage or treatment system or wishes to modify any existing wastewater collection, storage or treatment system.

Section 10 – The Corps issues Section 10 Permits. Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 requires that regulated activities conducted below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) elevation of traditionally navigable waters (TNW) of the United States be approved/permitted by the Corps.

Section 9 Permit – The U.S. Coast Guard issues Section 9 permits for projects that impact bridges in navigable waters.

ODNR Permits – If you selected yes, choose the appropriate permit type from the dropdown list.

- <u>Lake Erie Coastal Permits</u> Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Office of Coastal Management issues several permits for activities in the coastal zone along Lake Erie.
- DMRM Permits ODNR Division of Mineral Resources Management issues coal and industrial minerals permits.
- DOGR Permits ODNR Division of Oil and Gas Resources issues permits for oil and gas wells.

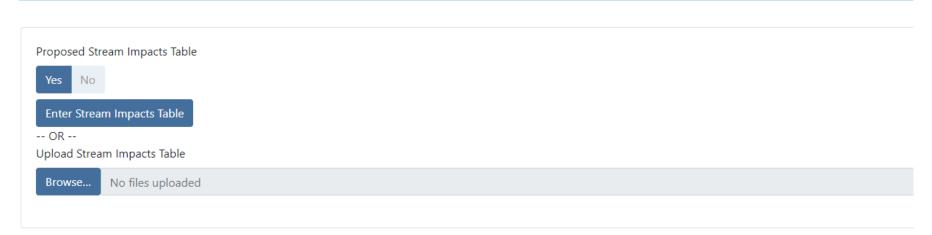
Isolated Wetland Permit - Ohio EPA has authority to regulate discharges of fill into isolated wetlands. The laws regarding isolated wetland permits is provided in Ohio Revised Code 6111.02 through 6111.028.

Regional General Permit – The Corps issues a type of general permit known as a Regional General Permit to the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) every five years. This permit authorizes activities in waters of the United States conducted by ODOT in the State of Ohio.



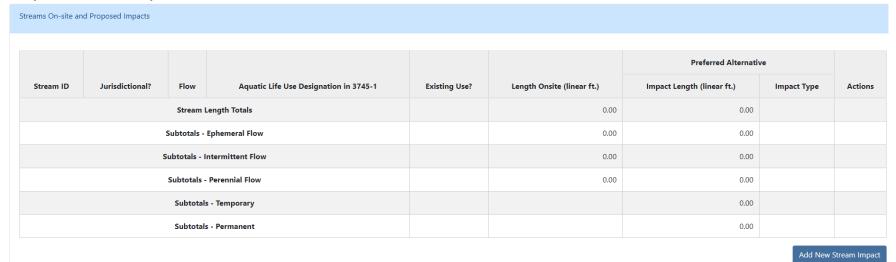
Select **Yes** or **No** to indicate if you are exempt from fees for a 401 Director's Authorization. Click the "Am I exempt" link to see who is exempt from fees for Director's Authorizations.

Submitted Documentation

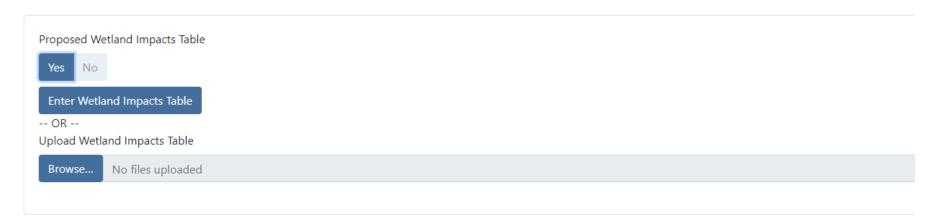


Stream Impacts - Click the Browse button to upload a stream impacts table or click the Enter Stream Impacts Table button.

Proposed Stream Impacts



Click the *Add New Stream Impact* button to add information to the above table. Enter the appropriate information for the proposed impacts and click *Save* to return to the table.



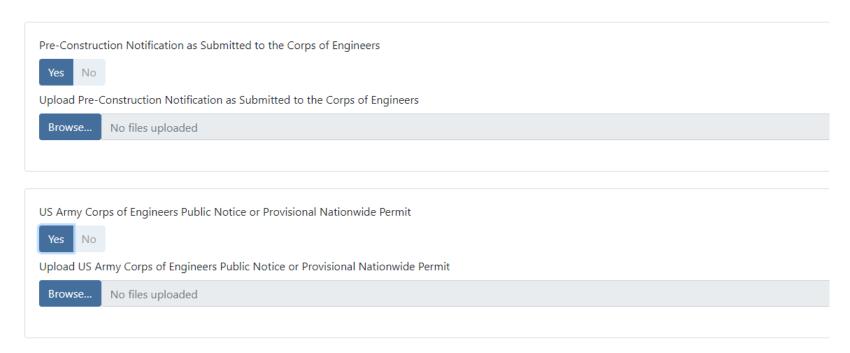
Wetland Impacts - Click the Browse button to upload a stream impacts table or click the Enter Wetland Impacts Table button.

Proposed Wetland Impacts

Wetlands Onsite and	Proposed Impacts								
						Preferred Alternative			
						Impact Acreage			
Wetland ID	ORAM Score	core Category Cat. Verified by Ohio EPA? Ohio EPA Reviewer who Verified Acreage	Acreage Onsite	Forested	Non	Impact Type	Actions		
	Wetland Acreage Totals				0.00	0.00	0.00		
Subtotals - Category 1 Wetlands				0.00	0.00	0.00			
Subtotals - Category 2 Wetlands				0.00	0.00	0.00			
			Subtotals - Category 3 Wetlands		0.00	0.00	0.00		
			Subtotals - Temporary			0.00	0.00		
			Subtotals - Permanent			0.00	0.00		

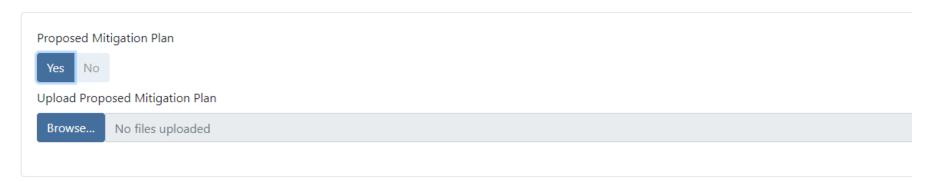
Add New Wetland Impact

Click the *Add New Wetland Impact* button to add information to the above table. Enter the appropriate information for the proposed impacts and click *Save* to return to the table.

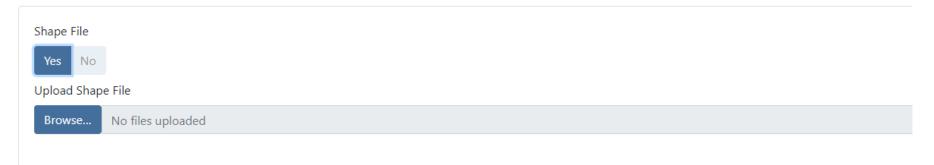


Pre-construction notification (**PCN**) – Select whether the project required a PCN to the Corps and is provided with this application. Attach a copy of the PCN by selecting **Browse**.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Provisional Nationwide Permit – Select whether you have received a provisional Nationwide Permit from the Corps. Attach a copy of the Provisional Nationwide Permit by selecting *Browse*.



Proposed Mitigation Plan - Select whether you have prepared a mitigation plan for the project. Attach a copy of the mitigation plan by selecting **Browse**.



Shape File - Select whether you have a shapefile for the project. Attach the shape file(s) by selecting Browse.

Description Of Conditions Not Met Within The 401 WQC For The NWP No Yes Description Of Conditions Not Met Within The 401 WQC For The NWP Upload Description Of Conditions Not Met Within The 401 WQC For The NWP No files uploaded Browse... Description Of Conditions Waived By The Corps Of Engineers (If Applicable) Yes No Description Of Conditions Waived By The Corps Of Engineers (If Applicable) Upload Description Of Conditions Waived By The Corps Of Engineers (If Applicable) No files uploaded Browse...

401 Conditions Not Met – Provide a description of the conditions within the 401 water quality certification for the Nationwide Permits that are not being met for this project. You may attach additional information by selecting **Browse**.

Corps Conditions Not Met - Provide a description of the NWP conditions that will be waived by the Corps for this project. You may attach additional information by selecting *Browse*.

Description Of How The Project Minimally Impacts Water Quality And Reasons Why The Resources Are Unable To Be Avoided Yes No Description Of How The Project Minimally Impacts Water Quality And Reasons Why The Resources Are Unable To Be Avoided Upload Description Of How The Project Minimally Impacts Water Quality And Reasons Why The Resources Are Unable To Be Avoided No files uploaded Browse... Description Of How The Project Meets Public Need, As Defined In OAC 3745-1-50, For Proposed Impacts To Category 3 Wetlands No Yes Description Of How The Project Meets Public Need, As Defined In OAC 3745-1-50, For Proposed Impacts To Category 3 Wetlands Upload Description Of How The Project Meets Public Need, As Defined In OAC 3745-1-50, For Proposed Impacts To Category 3 Wetlands No files uploaded Browse...

Minimal Impacts to Water Quality - Provide a description and rationale of how this project will minimally impact water quality and why the resources to be impacted are unable to be avoided. You may attach additional information by selecting *Browse*.

Public Need Demonstration – For proposed impacts to Category 3 wetlands, provide a description of how this project meets the definition of public need in OAC 3745-1-50. You may attach additional information by selecting **Browse**.

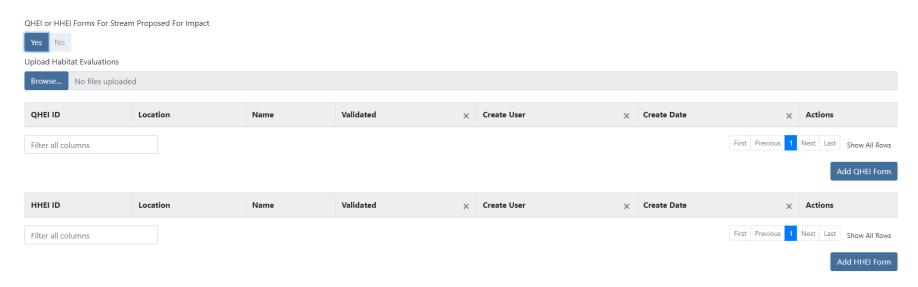
High Resolution Color Photographs For Each Resource Proposed For Impact

Yes No

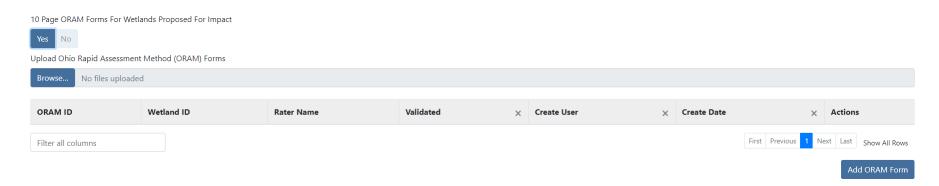
Upload Site Photographs

Browse... No files uploaded

Photographs – Select whether you have taken photographs for each resource proposed for impact and upload those pictures by selecting **Browse**. Photographs should be provided in accordance with Appendix B and C of the 401 WQC for the 2017 NWPs.



Habitat assessments on Streams – Select whether you have performed any habitat assessments for streams within the project area. By clicking on *Add QHEI or Add HHEI*, you can enter the results of the QHEI or HHEI assessments directly into the form. You may also choose to upload scanned copies of your forms if you already have them saved on your computer by selecting *Browse*.



ORAM assessments on Wetlands – Select whether you performed an ORAM assessment for the wetlands proposed for impact. By clicking on **Add ORAM Form**, you can enter the results of the ORAM assessment directly into the form. You may also choose to upload scanned copies of your forms if you already have them saved on your computer by selecting **Browse**.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Threatened and Endangered Species Coordination



Upload Ohio Department of Natural Resources - Threatened and Endangered Species Coordination

Browse...

No files uploaded

United States Fish & Wildlife Service - Threatened and Endangered Species Coordination



Upload United States Fish & Wildlife Service - Threatened and Endangered Species Coordination



No files uploaded

ODNR Threatened and Endangered Species Coordination – Select whether you have received comments from ODNR regarding threatened and endangered species. Attach your submitted request or comments received by selecting *Browse*.

USFWS Coordination – Select whether you have received comments from USFWS regarding threatened and endangered species. Attach the comments received by selecting *Browse*.

When complete, you can click the *Validate* button to check for errors within in the form – they will be highlighted in **Red**. If no errors exist, click the *Submit* button to submit the form or the *Save* button to Save and Exit. *NOTE: The option to print, delete, edit, and delegate the application will be available from your personal dashboard.*

Qualitative Habitat Evaluation Index and Use Assessment Field Sheet

For detailed instructions on how to complete a QHEI and fill out the forms, please refer to the QHEI manual located at: https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/35/documents/QHEIManualJune2006.pdf

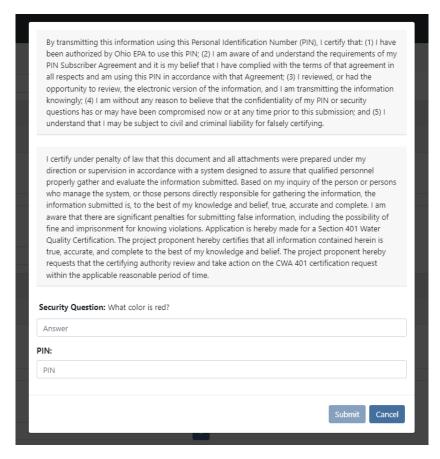
Primary Headwater Habitat Evaluation Index and Use Assessment Field Sheet

For detailed instructions on how to complete a HHEI and fill out the forms, please refer to the PHWH manual located at: https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/35/wqs/headwaters/PHWHManual_2020_Ver_4_1_May_2020_Final.pdf?ver=Jx6Z3r_n9feBAUir3HWp_FQ%3d%3d

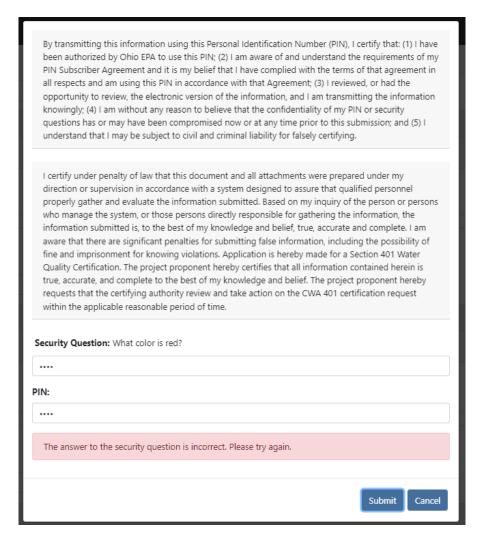
Ohio Rapid Assessment Method for Wetland Categorization (ORAM)

For detailed instructions on how to complete an ORAM and fill out the forms, please refer to the ORAM manual located at: https://epa.ohio.gov/divisions-and-offices/surface-water/reports-data/wetland-ecology

Submitting Applications



When you click the *Submit* button, you will be prompted to answer a security question and enter your PIN (i.e., your personal electronic signature). Enter this information and click the *Submit* button.



Entering in an incorrect security question answer or PIN will result in a red error message – simply just reenter this information and click the *Submit* button again.

Editing, Deleting, and Delegation



If you saved the application form and chose <u>not</u> to submit it immediately, it will now be housed on the 401 Application List on your personal dashboard where you can now perform the tasks under the *Actions* dropdown.

Possible Actions:

Edit Application – takes you back in to editing the application

Delegate Application – delegate the application to another eBusiness Center account holder (ex. one person prepares the application, another person submits it)

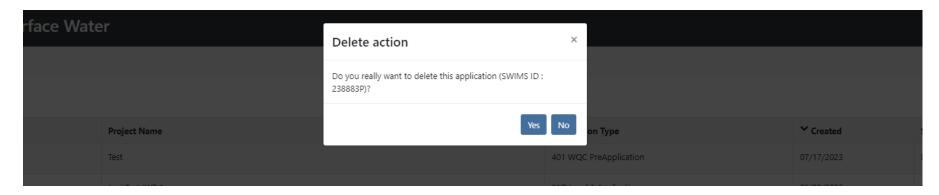
Download Application PDF – downloads a pdf of the 2-4 page application form

Zip - downloads all the attachments in a zip file

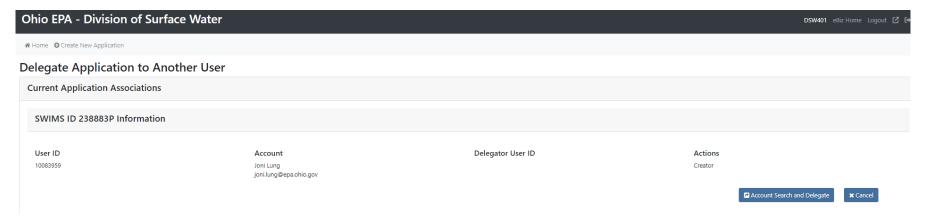
DELETE – permanently deletes the application. This action **CANNOT BE UNDONE**.

View Attachments - opens separate screen to see a list of all attachments currently uploaded

Upload Application Documents - upload specific attachments to the system

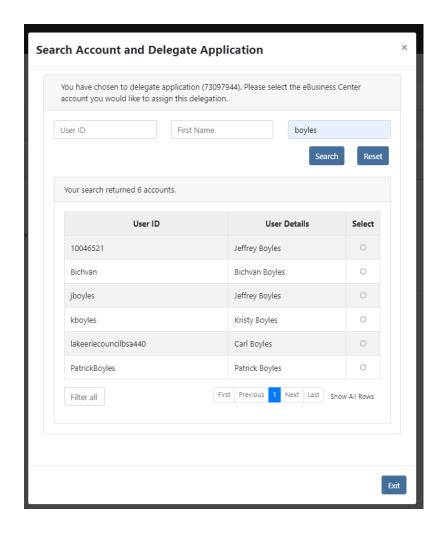


If you decide to delete the application form that you have created, simply click on the *Actions* dropdown and select *Delete Application*. A confirmation window will prompt you to confirm the deletion of the application. If confirmed, the application will no longer be present on your dashboard. This action is permanent and cannot be undone, so use this action carefully.

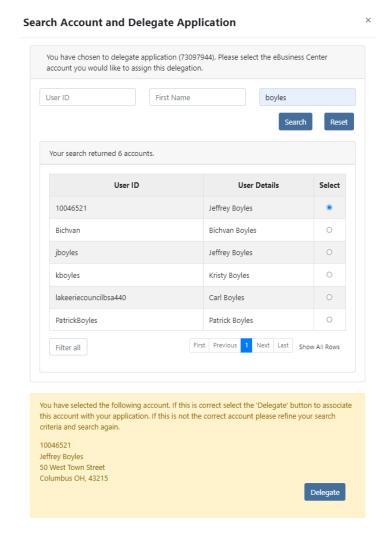


If you choose to delegate an application form, simply click on the *Actions* dropdown and select *Delegate Application*. The system will prompt you to search for the account holder that you want to delegate to. If you know their eBusiness Center account User ID, simply type it in and click *Search*.

<u>TIP:</u> Do not fill in all search fields (for example, if you do not know the User ID, simply type in their last name and click *Search*.). This screen also displays all users that have access to the application.

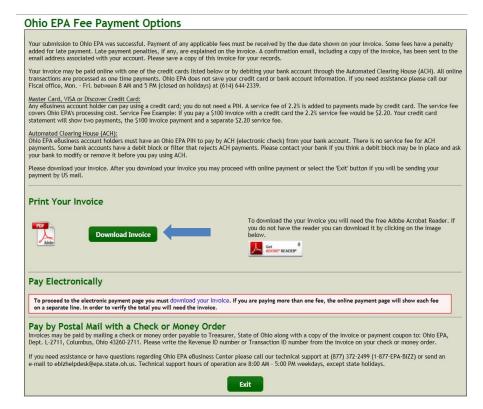


The example above is a search by the Last Name of "Boyles". The system returns a list of all user names that match. To choose a user select the radio button in the Select Column of the appropriate person.



A confirmation will be shown of the account holder that you selected, simply click the *Delegate* button to complete the delegation. At this point, the account holder you have delegated can log into their personal eBusiness Center account and will have the application/report listed on their dashboard. As the original creator of this application, you may also delete this delegation by selecting the delegate action and clicking *Delete* next to that user's information.

<u>ePay – Fee Payment</u>





If the application generates a fee, the preferred method of fee payment is through ePay. After submitting the application, the Fee Payment Options screen will appear (you will also get an email containing a PDF of both application and invoice). You can pay immediately or pay later by logging back into your account and clicking *Pay EPA Fees Online* in the available service list. To pay immediately, click the *Download Invoice* button to proceed with the online payment. The invoice information will appear on screen where the payer may select *Pay with Credit Card*, *Pay with ACH* or *Exit* (to return to the eBusiness Center home page). If paying via credit card, a 1.9% fee is applied – no fee is applied if using electronic check (<u>Note:</u> If the payer does not have an eBusiness Center PIN their only payment option is to pay by credit card. If your preferred method of payment is by electronic check simply return to the eBusiness Center and click *My Account* and then *Apply for PIN* to receive a PIN within minutes.)

Technical Support

For site specific or detailed 401-related questions, contact:

Joni Lung 401 Section Technical Lead Division of Surface Water 50 West Town Street, Suite 700 Columbus, OH 43215

<u>Joni.Lung@epa.ohio.gov</u> (614) 644-2152

For system technical assistance with the 401 Service or any of the Division of Surface Water's Electronic Business Services, don't hesitate to contact the system administrator. The administrator urges each account holder to develop a positive working relationship with DSW to remain current on relevant topics, obtain value-added tips, streamline efforts, and to always have a go-to contact when you need one.

The preferred method of communication is through email as the administrator can email you personalized click-by-click instructions. If you leave a voice mail or send an email, you will receive expert advice from the administrator -- nearly 95% of technical assistance requests are handled within minutes but can take up to 24 hours if the administrator is out of the office or away from the desk.

BUSINESS HOURS: Mon- Fri: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.